

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 53

By Pitts

A RESOLUTION to request the Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Osteopathic Examination to study Vitamin D deficiency in pregnant women.

WHEREAS, Vitamin D deficiency during pregnancy appears to be at epidemic levels according to some medical researchers; and

WHEREAS, infants with rickets are being born to mothers who have a Vitamin D deficiency; and

WHEREAS, tragically, infants with rickets may appear to be the victims of child abuse, causing significant distress to parents as well as to the medical and child welfare communities; and

WHEREAS, child abuse specialists, the medical community, and the courts may not recognize the effects of rickets with brittle bones in infants and instead consider an infant to suffer from shaken baby syndrome or other forms of child abuse; and

WHEREAS, a study of Vitamin D deficiency in pregnant women and how it may affect their children by the Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Osteopathic Examination could benefit infants and their families, the medical community, the child welfare community, and the courts with the development of appropriate protocols for addressing this condition; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that this body requests the Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Osteopathic Examination to study Vitamin D deficiency in pregnant women and develop appropriate protocols for addressing this condition.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Osteopathic Examination report the results of their study of Vitamin D deficiency in pregnant women and any recommendations from that study to the Health and Welfare Committee of the Senate and the Health Committee of the House of Representatives on or before January 15, 2018.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for transmission to the Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Osteopathic Examination.